AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 6, 2005

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2005-06 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1122

Introduced by Assembly Member Wyland

February 22, 2005

An act to amend Section 672 of the Insurance Code, relating to auto insurance.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1122, as amended, Wyland. Auto insurance: cost estimate.

Existing law requires every admitted insurer or insurer group licensed to sell auto insurance to provide consumers with a cost estimate for its lowest priced personal auto insurance policy at the limits the consumer has requested and for which the consumer is eligible.

This bill would *apply this requirement, instead, to every admitted insurer selling auto insurance. It would* exempt from this requirement any insurer that is licensed to sell auto insurance and that ceases the sale of auto insurance, provided that another insurer in the same insurer group satisfies the requirement.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- SECTION 1. Section 672 of the Insurance Code is amended to read:
- 3 672. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (d), every
- 4 admitted insurer or insurer group licensed to sell selling
- 5 automobile insurance shall provide consumers of personal

AB 1122 -2-

automobile insurance, as described in Section 660, with a cost estimate for its lowest priced personal automobile insurance policy at the limits the consumer has requested and for which the consumer is eligible.

- (b) The insurer shall meet this requirement by either or both of the following:
- (1) Maintaining a toll-free telephone number available to consumers in any geographic area in which the insurer is authorized or approved to write business in California. Upon request, the insurer shall provide the consumer with a cost estimate, or shall refer the consumer to an insurer representative or insurance broker-agent who shall, upon request, provide the cost estimate based upon information provided by the consumer. The insurer shall make this toll-free number available to the consumer by maintaining a listing in the toll-free telephone directory.
- (2) Maintaining an Internet Web site where consumers can obtain a cost estimate online, or be referred to an insurer representative or insurance broker-agent who shall, upon request, provide the cost estimate based upon information provided by the consumer.
- (c) Each insurer shall provide the toll-free number or the Internet Web site address, or both, to the commissioner, who shall make the information available on the department's Internet Web site and through the department's consumer toll-free telephone line.
- (d) This section shall not apply to any insurer that is licensed to sell automobile insurance and that ceases the sale of automobile insurance, provided that another insurer in the same insurer group satisfies the requirements of this section.